

From: Jake Loewen
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 7:36pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Hello,

Being an expert computer user since the mid 1980's I have watched Microsoft turn from a beneficial software company who thought of the customer first to a monopolistic, ego driven corporation seeking to make more money than they actually need.

The last Microsoft operating system I purchased was Windows 98. Now I run Linux and find it to be a blessing being as 95% of the software is free and extremely more dependable than anything from Microsoft.

It is my opinion that Microsoft needs to be split into two companies and the two companies CANNOT work with each other directly. The most important thing is that the operating system company cannot bundle Internet Explorer with the system software - leave that up to the commercial software half of Microsoft.

In my copies of SuSE Linux there are numerous browsers included with an install: KDE's Konqueror, Opera, Netscape, Mozilla, and Lynx. This allows me to choose which browser I want to use and allows the browser companies to have fair and unbiased views of their customers. On the other hand Microsoft pretty much runs the browser business for win32 operating systems and its either IE or crippled installs of Netscape. Unfortunately Opera isn't proclaimed much due to Microsoft's overwhelming market presence.

It is in the opinion of this system administrator, technology guru, and unbiased operating system user that Microsoft be split in half and allow for better market competition.

Jake Loewen

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